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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/596,385	09/11/2007	Sture Roos	72824-83894	5942
26288	7590	11/21/2011	EXAMINER	
Aibihns.Zacco AB			AL AUBAIDI, RASHA S	
P.O. Box 5581				
Valhallavagen 117			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
STOCKHOLM, SE-114 85			2614	
SWEDEN				
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/596,385

Applicant(s)

ROOS ET AL.

Examiner

RASHA AL AUBAIDI

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 January 2011.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ An election was made by the applicant in response to a restriction requirement set forth during the interview on ____; the restriction requirement and election have been incorporated into this action.
- 4) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 5a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are rejected.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 9) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 10) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 12 June 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 06/12/2006.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on June 12, 2006 is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hard et al. (US PAT # 6,265,842).

Regarding independent claims 1 and 13, Hard teaches a method and a remotely controlled cross-connection switching matrix for a telephone system (col. 20, lines 6 - 21, figs. 17 – 37 and abstract). A matrix assembly (10), made up of circuit boards (11, 13, 15, 17) and a plurality of jumper pins (40), is coupled (inserted) in series with the customer lines (152, 153) between a mainframe (154) and the terminating equipment at a central office (156). All cross-connections can be made automatically from a remote location (see fig. 17 and col. 20, lines 6 – 21). Control signals from a telephone system central office are received by a modem (129) and a microprocessor (132)(see col.17, lines 14 - 22, fig.11). An operator can select the cable pair and the line circuit to be

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interconnected (col. 33, lines 4 -16). The matrix assembly (10) may be used at a location remote from a telephone system central office or at the central office (col.19, lines 15 - 24). The remote control includes placing, moving and removing of cross-connections (col. 33, lines 63 – col.64, line 2). The operator has a personal computer, a screen and access to a database wherein the matrix connections are stored and updated (col.31, lines 51 - 54, col. 33, lines 4 - 29). The operator can call a particular remote site having a cross- connect matrix system (col.32, lines 27 - 30). In conclusion, hard teaches the steps of entering information into a remote terminal related to making a desired connection for establishing or removing a subscriber communication line, checking the current allocated resources relating to the MDF from a database and transmitting a command to the MDF.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation

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under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claims 1-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Goodrich (US PAT # 4,833,708).

Regarding claims 1 and 13, Goodrich teaches a method and an automatic cross-connect system for use in a telecommunications network (col.6, line 64 – col.23, line 45, figs. 1- 2, abstract).The system includes subscriber lines (34a, 34b), a plurality of cross-connect cabinets (30a) with a plurality of plug-in cross-connect switch matrix cards (42) that are coupled to a main distribution frame (28) in a central office and a computer (14) that remotely controls automatic cross-connect devices. The computer (14) calls a selected telephone office supervisory control unit (22) via a dial up telephone line and sends cross-connect commands including cabinet (30) identity, the number of a selected switch matrix card (42), the relay number thereof, and an instruction, for example, to actuate or release the selected relay (col.14, lines 4 - 18, col.9, line 60 – col.10, line 49). The computer (14) maintains a database of information relating to present and planned cross-connect cabinet activity (col.7, lines 15 - 17). The supervisory control unit (22) of the telephone office maintains a record of the cross-connect map for each of the cross-connect cabinets (30, 30a) (col.15, lines 3 9, col.13,

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lines 50 - 54). The cross-connect register can be sent to the computer. The supervisory control unit (22) supplies commands and operating current to the selected cross-connect cabinet over a wire pair (26, 26a, 26b)(see col. 7, lines 22 – 46 and figure 1. Obviously, coupling by plug-in makes it easy to reduce or increase the number of cross-connect switch matrix cards.

It is noted that the invention claimed in claims 1 and 13 differs from what is known from Goodrich, in that the main distribution frame has connector blocks and that the cross-connect switch matrix cards (boards) are coupled to the connector blocks. The switch matrix cards (boards) of the system according to document Goodrich are coupled by plug-in to connectors that are connected to the main distribution frame. Furthermore, main distribution frames usually have connector blocks for terminating subscriber lines and exchange lines, and plug-in of components.

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use such a main distribution frame and plug the cross-connect switch matrix cards (boards) into the connector blocks, thereby arriving at a system and a method having all the essential features of claims 1 and 13.

Regarding claim 2, see Goodrich (col. 7, lines 3-17). Note that the claimed “connection states” may read on the information related to present and planned cross-connect cabinet activity.

Regarding claim 3 (see Fig. 1).

The limitations of dependent claims 4-12 and 14-24, is considered obvious within the teachings of Goodrich, specifically regarding the use of TCP/IP protocol, LAN or Ethernet, as recited in claims 8 and 19, because these limitation are old and well known in the art of telephony.

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Posner et al. (US PAT # 4,807,280) which teaches a cross-connect switch having different numbers of input and output lines (see abstract of the invention).

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rasha S. AL-Aubaidi whose telephone number is (571) 272-7481. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30 am to 5:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ahmad Matar, can be reached on (571) 272-7488.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should

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you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Rasha S AL-Aubaidi/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2614